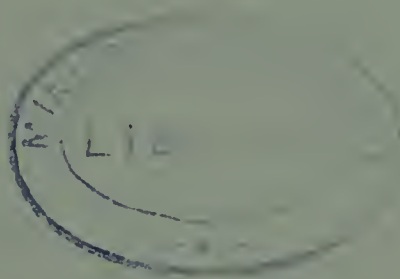


WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH  
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25 SEP 1953  
P.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

ABERAYRON  
CARDIGANSHIRE.



PUBLIC HEALTH . DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

1952

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

I. Morgan Watkin, Ph.D.(Lond.), M.Sc., M.B.,  
B.Ch., D.P.H.(Wales).

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

D. C. Davies, Cert. S.I.B.



To the Chairman and Members of the  
Aberayron Urban District Council.

It gives me pleasure to present to you the Annual Report of the Health  
Department for the year ended December 31st, 1952.

The health of the community during the year appears to have been extremely  
good. Whereas in 1951 only four births were registered, in 1952 the number had  
risen to 19. Deaths, on the other hand fell from 27 in 1951 to 21 in 1952. No  
death was ascribed to childbirth. Infectious diseases were almost completely absent.  
Although two cases of paratyphoid were notified in the town, the original infection  
had been acquired in Cardiff. Not a single case of tuberculosis was notified during  
the year.

A more detailed commentary on various aspects of the public health will be  
found in the ensuing pages.



SUMMARY OF GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) .. .. .	388
Population (Census, 1931) .. .. .	1,155
Population (mid-year 1952) .. .. .	1,181
Rateable value (at 1st April, 1952) .. ..	£5,372
Sum represented by a penny rate .. .. .	£21

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number of registered live births (Legitimate	19	11	8
(Illegitimate	-	-	-
Number of registered stillbirths (Legitimate	-	-	-
(Illegitimate	-	-	-
Number of registered deaths	21	9	12
Number of deaths of women ascribed to childbirth	-	-	-
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year (Legitimate	1	-	1
(Illegitimate	-	-	-
Number of deaths of infants under 1 month (Legitimate	1	-	1
(Illegitimate	-	-	-

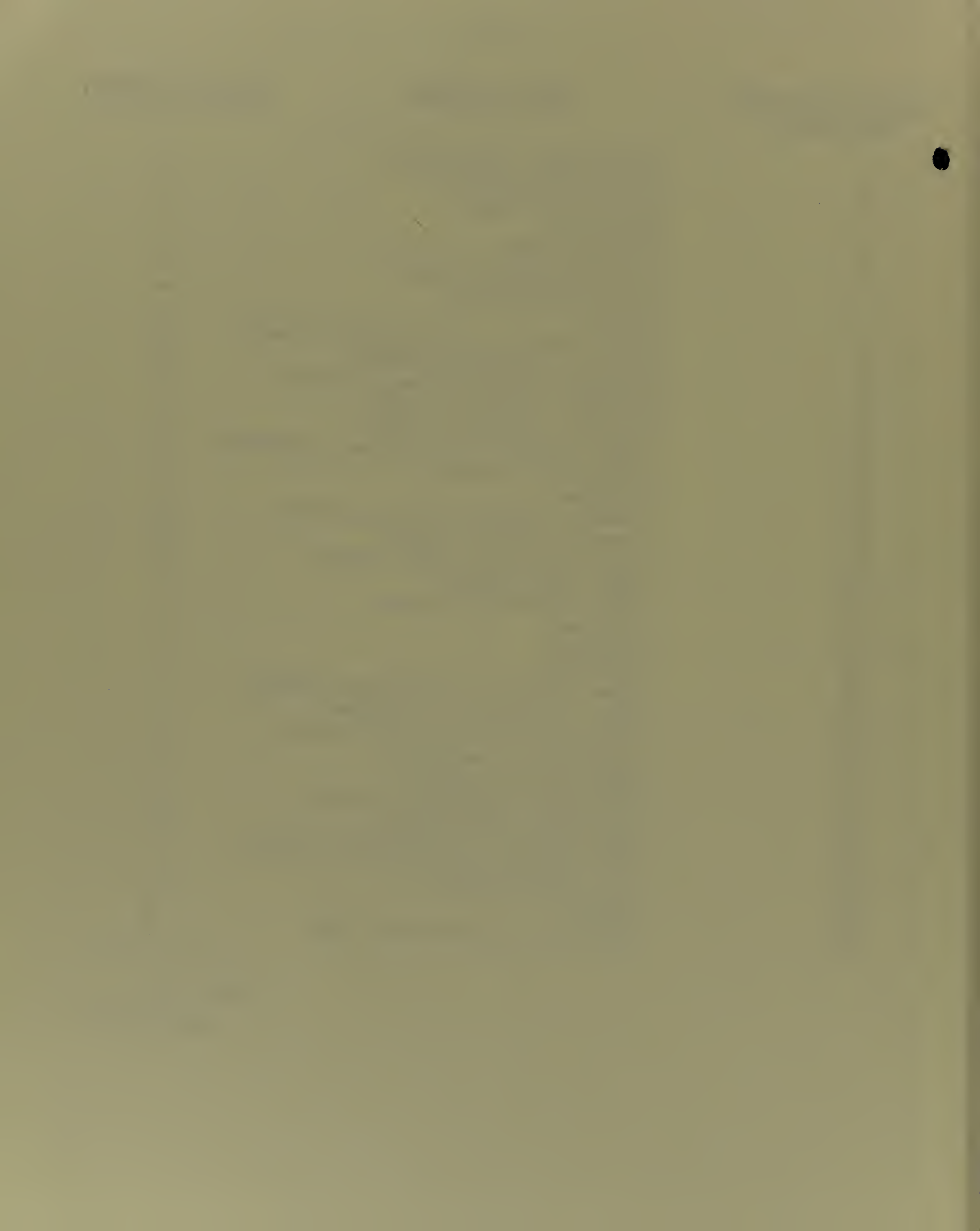


<u>Registrar-General's</u> <u>Code Number.</u>	<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Number of Deaths.</u>
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-
2	Tuberculosis, other	-
3	Syphilitic disease	-
4	Diphtheria	-
5	Whooping cough	-
6	Meningococcal infections	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	-
8	Measles	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-
14	Other lymphatic and malignant neoplasms	1
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-
16	Diabetes	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	5
18	Coronary disease, angina	2
19	Hypertension with heart disease	-
20	Other heart disease	6
21	Other circulatory disease	-
22	Influenza	-
23	Pneumonia	-
24	Bronchitis	-
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	-
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	-
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-
31	Congenital malformations	2
32	Other defined and illdefined diseases	-
33	Motor vehicle accidents	-
34	All other accidents	-
35	Suicide	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	-

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Total 21

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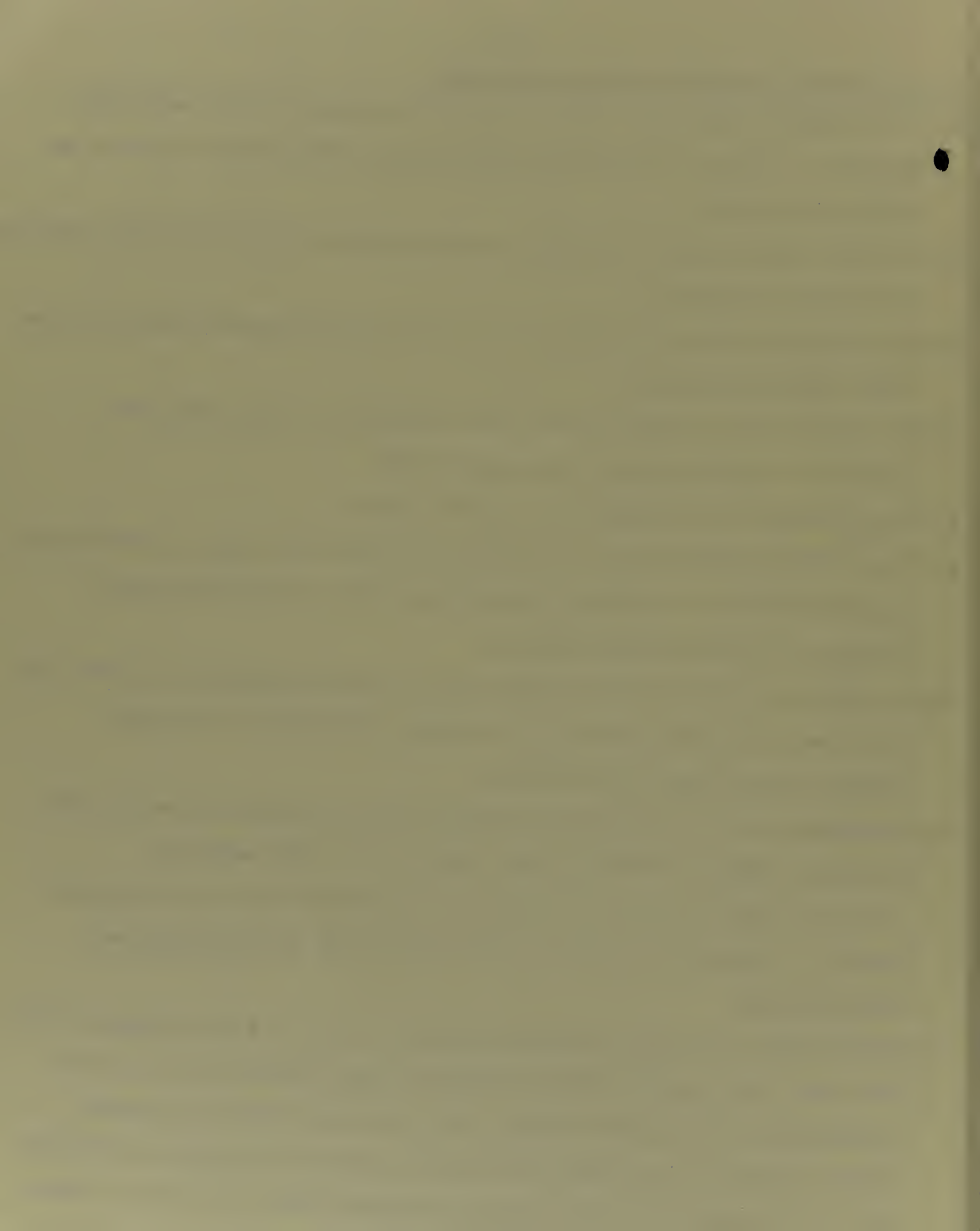




General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

- (a) No ante-natal or post-natal clinic is held in the district by the local health authority. Expectant and nursing mothers receive medical advice from their own medical practitioners.
- (b) An infant welfare clinic attended by a medical officer of the local health authority is held once a fortnight.
- (c) The domiciliary midwifery service is carried out by the district nurse who is also a State Registered Midwife.
- (d) The Aberayron Urban District Council area forms part of a much larger area covered by a health visitor of the County Council.
- (e) Home nursing is in the hands of the district nurse.
- (f) Vaccination is carried out by the person's own medical attendant, but immunisation against diphtheria is performed partly by the former and partly by medical officers of the local health authority.
- (g) An ambulance is stationed at New Quay which is used for general and accident work. Fever cases are usually removed by an ambulance ear-marked for infectious diseases and stationed at Aborystwyth.
- (h) Arrangements for the prevention of illness consist in periodic talks and advice by medical officers of both the local health and the local authority.

Care and after care are in the hands of the district nurse and of the health visitor. Tuberculosis cases are also followed up by the Chest Physician's Health Visitor.
- (i) Domestic help is provided by suitable persons who are, as a rule, engaged locally.
- (j) There is a small hospital situated within the Urban District, but the town of Aberystwyth, about 20 miles distant, is the centre upon which the principal general hospital in the county, the infectious diseases' hospital, the maternity home and the Medical Research Council's Area Public Health Laboratory are based.



INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following is a list of the notifications of infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, received during the year.

Cholera .. .. .	Nil
Diphtheria .. .. .	Nil
Dysentery (amoebic and bacillary) .. .. .	Nil
Encephalitis .. .. .	Nil
Erysipelas .. .. .	Nil
Food poisoning .. .. .	Nil
Malaria .. .. .	Nil
Measles .. .. .	3
Meningococcal meningitis .. .. .	Nil
Ophthalmia neonatorum .. .. .	Nil
Paratyphoid fever .. .. .	2
Plague .. .. .	Nil
Pneumonia (acute primary and acute influenzal) .. .. .	Nil
Polio-myelitis .. .. .	Nil
Puerperal pyrexia .. .. .	Nil
Relapsing fever .. .. .	Nil
Scarlet fever .. .. .	Nil
Smallpox .. .. .	Nil
Typhoid fever .. .. .	Nil
Typhus fever .. .. .	Nil
Whooping cough .. .. .	1

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Total 6

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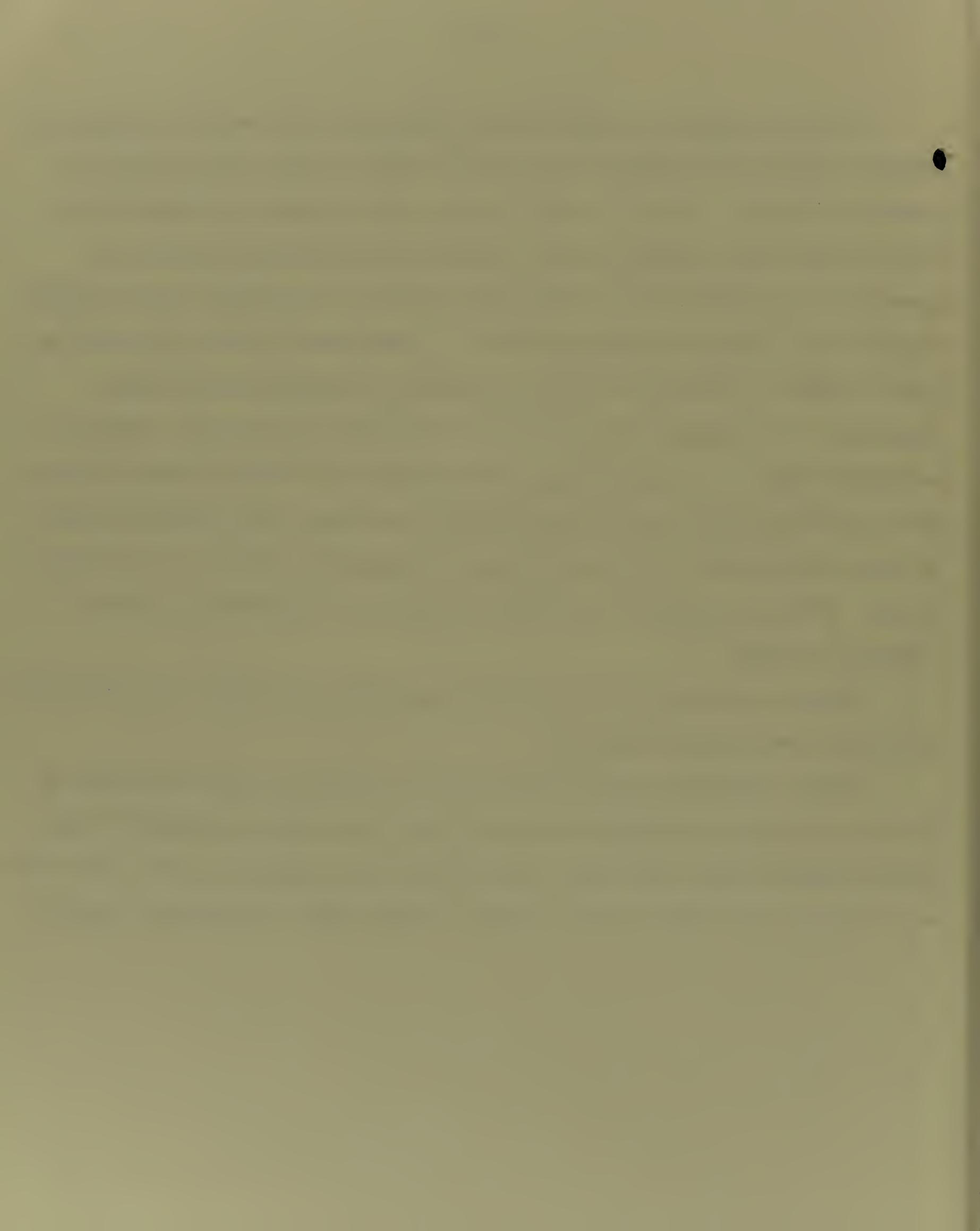


A child was notified as suffering from paratyphoid fever and, as a consequence, detailed enquiries were made about all food and drink she had consumed during the previous fortnight. It came to light that the child had been on holiday with an aunt in Cardiff and, although the aunt was fit when the child was with her, it appeared that she had been on the sick list a month or so previously with an illness that had been labelled "gastro-enteritis". I immediately got into touch with the Medical Officer of Health for the City of Cardiff who arranged for the aunt's examination. The result of the examination showed that the aunt was a carrier of paratyphoid fever. The aunt's illness had evidently been wrongly diagnosed by her doctor, for what he had called "gastro-enteritis" must have been paratyphoid fever. The other child who did not leave Aberayron contracted the infection from her small sister. Both were removed to the Isolation Hospital at Tanybwllch and made an uneventful recovery.

Extensive sampling of articles of food and drink were carried out at Aberayron, but all the results proved negative.

Another individual from South Wales who had consumed a meal at Aberayron on his way to the National Eisteddfod at Aberystwyth fell victim to paratyphoid fever. Detailed enquiries were again made, but it later became apparent that the illness had been acquired in his home town where several further cases of the disease occurred.





National Assistance Act

No action was required to be taken under Section 47 of the above enactment which deals with persons who are unable to devote to themselves and are not receiving from others, proper care and attention. Two individuals residing at Pier Cottage were kept under regular observation, but their condition did not deteriorate sufficiently for action to be instituted.

General

The usual weekly and quarterly records of infectious disease were forwarded to the Registrar-General and the monthly records of tuberculosis notifications were transmitted to the County Medical Officer. The records of admission and discharge of tuberculous patients from hospital were examined and suitable action taken. The monthly death returns from the District Registrars of Births and Deaths were sorted and the list of Transferable Deaths checked. Discrepancies were notified to the Registrar-General.

A number of complaints both oral and written, were investigated and suitable action was taken.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report for the year is appended.

I. MORGAN WATKIN.  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Cardiganshire Joint District Councils,  
Swyddfa'r Sir,  
Marine Terrace,  
ABERYSTWYTH,  
August, 1953.





ABERAYRON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR

1952

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my annual report as follows:-

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Sewerage.

Part of the Urban District is provided with sewers, the majority of which have outfalls in the harbour which is a most unsatisfactory arrangement.

Closet Accommodation.

Estimated number of Privies with fixed receptacles .. .. .	198
Estimated number of Privies with moveable receptacles .. .. .	28
Estimated number of Water Closets .. .. .	207
Estimated number of Earth Closets .. .. .	8
Number of conversions - Privy Pits to Water Closets .. .. .	-
Number of conversions - Pail Closets to Water Closets .. .. .	3
New houses completed with pail closets .. .. .	Nil
New houses completed with water closets .. .. .	8

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

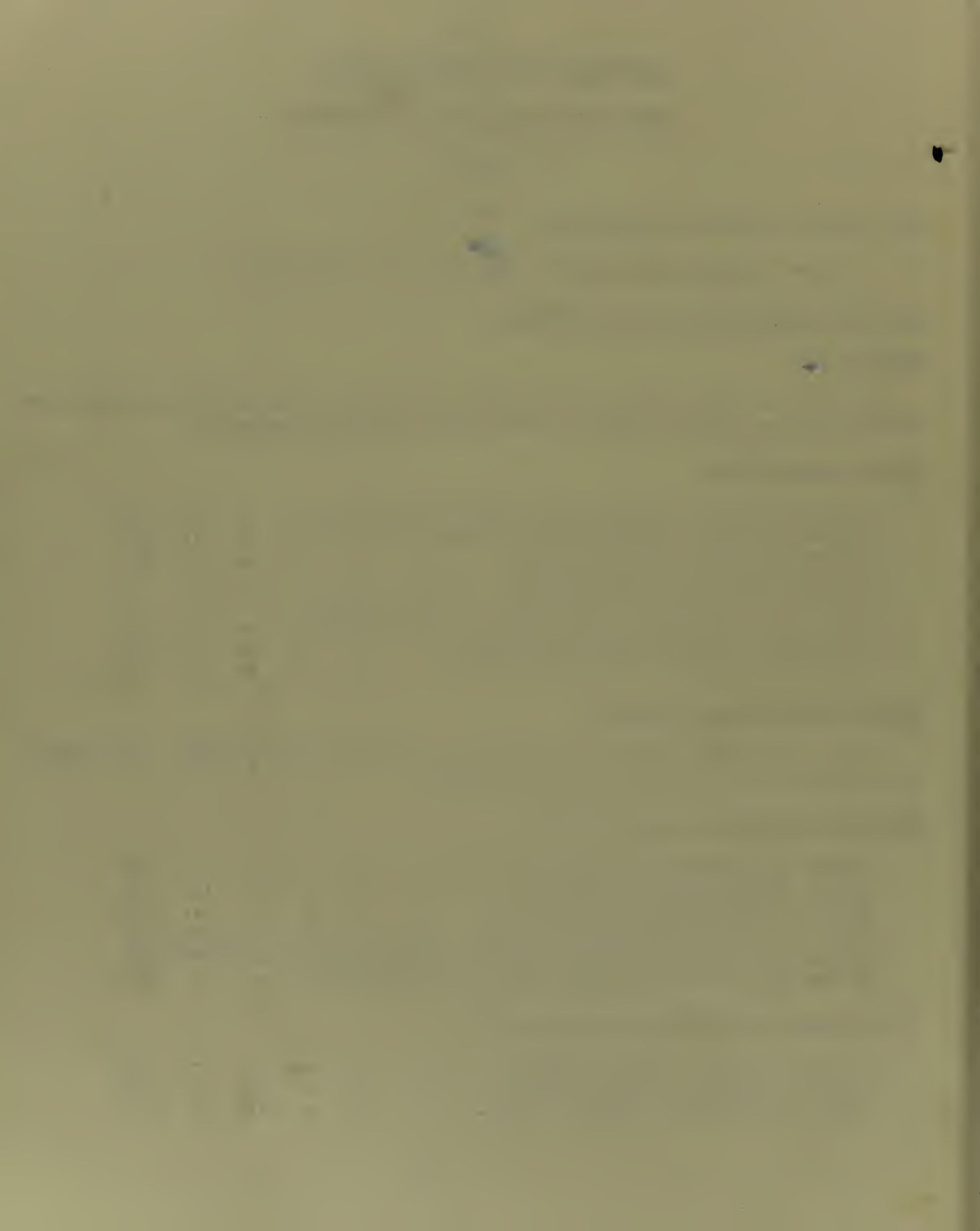
House and garden refuse is collected once weekly by the Council. The refuse is disposed of by tipping near the sea shore.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.

Number of Inspections of Dwelling houses .. .. .	48
Number of Inspections of Dairies .. .. .	4
Number of Inspections of Bakchouses .. .. .	18
Number of Inspections of Meat Shops .. .. .	18
Number of houses visited upon notification of Infectious Disease	Nil
Number of houses disinfected after infectious disease .. .. .	Nil

Notices under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Number of informal notices served .. .. .	10
Number of informal notices complied with .. .. .	10
Number of Statutory notices served .. .. .	Nil



Smoke Abatement.

No cause for action during the year.

Rag Flock Acts 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the area where Rag Flock is used, manufactured or sold.

Camping Sites.

Number of sites which were used for camping purposes during the year .. .. .	2
Number of sites in respect of which licences were issued by the local authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 .. .. .	Nil
Estimated number of campers in the area at one time during the summer period .. .. .	20

H O U S I N G .

Inspection of dwelling houses.

Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts) .. .. .	16
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Remedy of Defects without service of formal notices.

Number of houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action .. .. .	6
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Action under Statutory Powers.

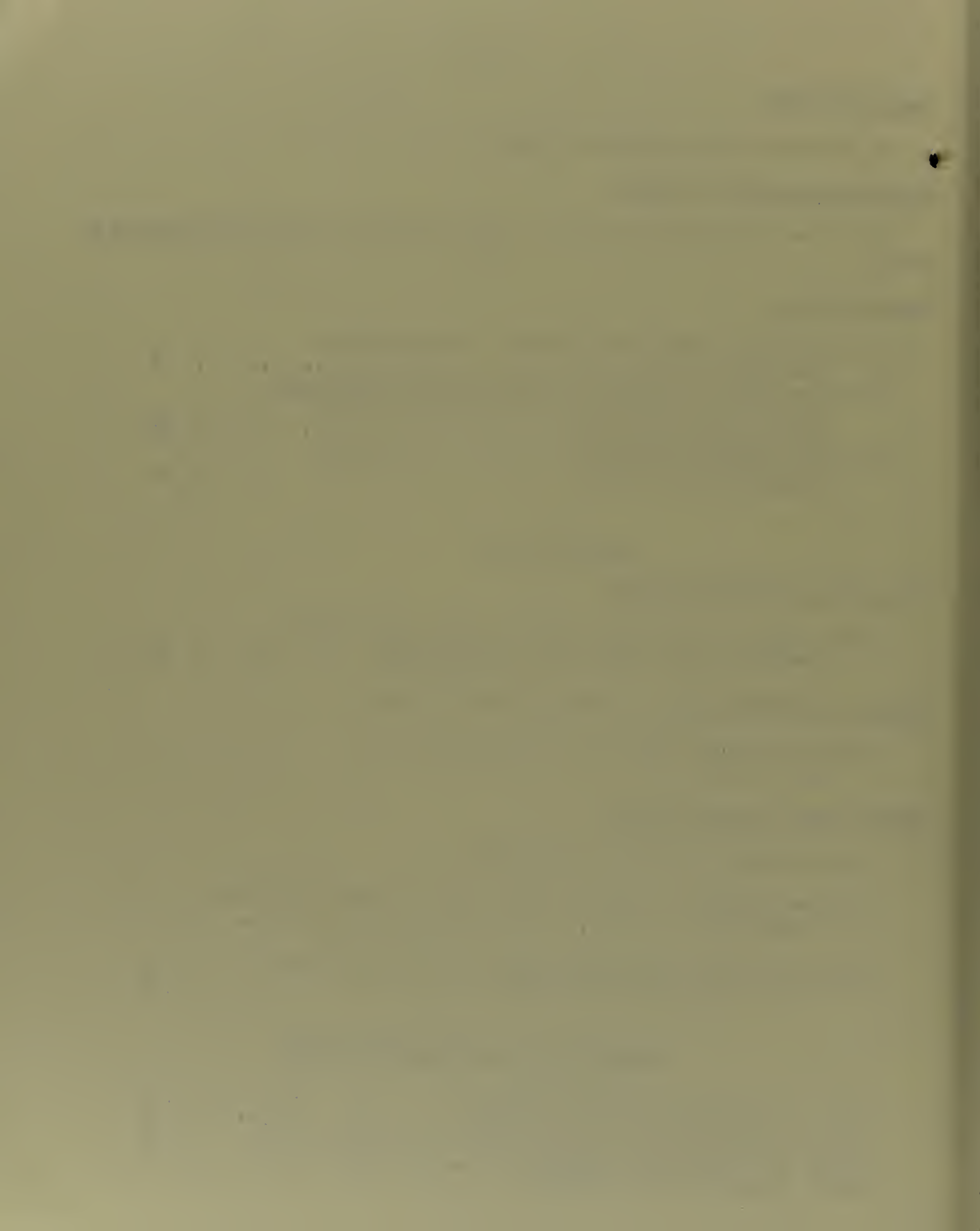
No proceedings were taken during 1952.

Estimated number of dwelling houses which in normal times be condemned .. .. .	4
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Number of persons on the waiting list for houses in the area on December 31st, 1952) .. .. .	15
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INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Number of inspections of Meat Shops .. .. .	18
Number of inspections of Restaurants .. .. .	22
Number of inspections of Premises where ice cream is sold .. .. .	20
Number of inspections of Bakehouses .. .. .	16
Number of inspections of Dairies .. .. .	4





Articles of food which were examined and found to be unfit for human consumption:-

<u>Article of Food.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>	<u>Cause of Condemnation.</u>
Condensed Milk	7 pints	Thickening
Liver (Lamb's)	1½ lbs.	Liver Flukes
Condensed Milk	1¾ pints	Blown Can
Vegetable Soup	10½ ozs.	Perforated Can
Luncheon Meat (French)	7 ozs.	Decomposition
Canned Strawberries	16 ozs.	Damaged Can
Canned Pears	16 ozs.	Damaged Can
Custard Powder	636 pts.	Stale
Flour	7½ lbs.	Mouldy
Beef	8 lbs.	Inflammatory Condition
Canned Grape Fruit	16 ozs.	Damaged can.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

The total number of Factories which come within the definition under the 1937 Act is 5, in each of which mechanical power is used.

It is hoped to submit a full report on factories at a later date.

Water Supply.

Eighteen Water Samples were taken from the town supply and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

With the exception of two all were highly satisfactory.

It is of the greatest importance that the catchwater drains surrounding the source at Bwlchcastell, Cilcennin, be kept open and free from obstruction as they alone are instrumental in intercepting and diverting surface water which would otherwise find its way into the source of supply. Extensive work in this direction was undertaken during the year with noticeable result.

Regular inspections at the source as well as sampling are carried out to ascertain the wholesomeness of the supply.

D. O. DAVIES, Cert. S.I.B.  
Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,  
1, North Road,  
Aberystwyth.

